Graft copolymers of methylene lactones and process for emulsion polymerization of methylene lactones

Description of Technology: The invention relates to the field of microbiology. More specifically, vectors are provided for the cloning and expression of genes in Rhodococcus species and like organisms.

Patent Listing:

1. **US Patent No. 6,949,362**, Issued September 27, 2005, "Rhodococcus cloning and expression vectors"

http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect2=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&p=1&u=%2Fnetahtml%2FPTO%2Fsearch-bool.html&r=1&f=G&l=50&d=PALL&RefSrch=yes&Query=PN%2F6949362

Market Potential: Gram-positive bacteria belonging to the genus Rhodococcus, some of which were formerly classified as Nocardia, Mycobacterium, Gordona, or Jensenia spp., or as members of the "rhodochrous" complex, are widely distributed in the environment. Members of the genus Rhodococcus exhibit a wide range of metabolic activities, including antibiotic and amino acid production, biosurfactant production, and biodegradation and biotransformation of a large variety of organic and xenobiotic compounds (see Vogt Singer and Finnerty, 1988, J. Bacteriol., 170:638-645; Quan and Dabbs, 1993, Plasmid, 29: 74-79; Warhurst and Fewson, 1994, Crit. Rev. Biotechnol., 14:29-73). Unfortunately, few appropriate genetic tools exist to investigate and exploit these metabolic activities in Rhodococcus and like organisms (see Finnerty, 1992, Annu. Rev. Microbiol., 46:193-218).

The problem to be solved, therefore, is to provide additional useful plasmid and shuttle vectors for use in genetically engineering Rhodococcus and like organisms. Such a vector will need to have a robust replication protein and must be able to be stably maintained in the host.

Benefits:

- Provides plasmid and shuttle vectors
- Vectors possess robust replication protein
- Vectors are able to be stably maintained in the host

Applications:

- Microbiology

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